

I. IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended): A system for detecting an annotated anchor in a document stored in a processor-readable storage medium, comprising:

a first code in the processor-readable storage medium for locating an annotation in the document; and,

a second code in the processor-readable storage medium for detecting, proximate to or within the annotation, the presence of an anchor, wherein the processor-readable storage medium communicates the first code and the second code to a processor to detect the annotated anchor in the document and to perform at least one process on the annotated anchor.

2. (Original): The system of claim 1 wherein said second code detects an anchor which represents an explicit link to at least one other location.

3. (Original): The system of claim 1 wherein said second code detects an anchor which represents an implicit link to at least one other location.

4. (Original): The system of claim 1 further including a data structure referencing said annotated anchor.

5. (Currently amended): The system of claim 1 further including a third code in the processor-readable storage medium for processing said annotated anchor.

6. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes generating a data structure including said annotated anchor.

7. (Original): The system of claim 6 wherein said data structure includes a plurality of annotated anchors.

8. (Original): The system of claim 7 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors are obtained from at least one document.
9. (Original): The system of claim 7 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors in said data structure are displayed in a format.
10. (Currently amended): The system of claim 9 wherein said format includes displaying said plurality of annotated anchors according to annotation metadata.
11. (Currently amended): The system of claim 9 wherein said format includes displaying said plurality of annotated anchors according to annotated anchor metadata.
12. (Currently amended): The system of claim 11 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors each represent a link to at least one target; and wherein said annotated anchor metadata includes a number of anchors within said document representing said target.
13. (Currently amended): The system of claim 11 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors each represent a link to at least one target; and wherein said annotated anchor metadata includes a number of annotated anchors representing said target.
14. (Currently amended): The system of claim 9 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors each represent a link to at least one target; and wherein said format includes displaying said annotated anchors according to target metadata.
15. (Original): The system of claim 14 wherein said target is a second document.

16. (Currently amended): The system of claim 5 wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor further comprises causing the system to add ~~includes adding~~ said annotated anchor to a data structure based on at least one attribute value.

17. (Original): The system of claim 16 wherein said data structure includes a plurality of annotated anchors which have said at least one attribute value.

18. (Currently amended): The system of claim 17 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors which have said at least one attribute value are obtained from a plurality of documents.

19. (Currently amended): The system of claim 17 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors which have said at least one attribute value in said data structure are displayed in a format.

20. (Currently amended): The system of claim 19 wherein said format includes displaying said annotated anchors which have said at least one attribute value according to annotation metadata.

21. (Currently amended): The system of claim 19 wherein said format includes displaying said annotated anchors which have said at least one attribute value according to annotated anchor metadata.

22. (Currently amended): The system of claim 19 wherein said annotated anchors which have said at least one attribute value each represent a link to at least one target; and wherein said format includes displaying said annotated anchors which have said at least one attribute value according to target metadata.

23. (Original): The system of claim 22 wherein said target is a second document.

24. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least a first target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes locating a second document which includes a reference to said first target.

25. (Currently amended): The system of claim 24 wherein said second document contains a second annotated anchor representing a link to at least a second target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes locating at least a second document which includes a reference to said first and second targets.

26. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least a second document; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes obtaining said second document.

27. (Original): The system of claim 26 wherein said second document is obtained prior to a reader requesting said second document.

28. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes detecting a second anchor representing a link to said target; and propagating said annotation to said second anchor.

29. (Original): The system of claim 28 wherein said second anchor is within said document.

30. (Original): The system of claim 28 wherein said second anchor is within a second document.

31. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes detecting a second anchor representing a link to said target; and suppressing a display of said second anchor.

32. (Original): The system of claim 31 wherein said second anchor is within said document.

33. (Original): The system of claim 31 wherein said second anchor is within a second document.

34. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes identifying, in a hypertext structure, a node representing said target; and propagating said annotation to said node.

35. (Original): The system of claim 34 wherein said code for processing includes identifying, in said hypertext structure, a connecting object representing said link, and altering said connecting object.

36. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes identifying, in a hypertext structure, a node representing said target; and suppressing a display of said node.

37. (Original): The system of claim 36 wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes identifying, in said hypertext structure, an object representing said link and suppressing a display of said object.

38. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes displaying said annotated anchor and said target.

39. (Currently amended): A method for detecting and processing a plurality of annotated anchors in a plurality of documents stored in a processor-readable storage medium, comprising the steps of:

- (a) locating an annotation in a document stored in the processor-readable storage medium;
- (b) detecting, proximate to or within the annotation, the presence of an anchor;
- (c) processing the annotated anchor wherein the processing step further comprises adding the annotated anchor to a data structure of annotated anchors; and displaying the data structure of the annotated data anchors; and,
- (d) repeating steps (a) – (c) for each annotation in the plurality of documents.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Currently amended): The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:
adding annotated anchors including at least one selected attribute to a data structure;
~~and,~~
~~displaying said data structure.~~

42. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein said annotated anchors each represent a link to at least one target; and wherein step (c) includes the step of:
locating at least a second document which includes a reference to at least one of said targets.

43. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein at least one of said annotated anchors represent a link to a second document; and wherein step (c) includes the steps of: determining whether said second document is stored in said system; and obtaining said second document if not already stored.
44. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of: determining a target of said annotated anchor; detecting a second anchor representing a link to said target; and, propagating said annotation to said second anchor.
45. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of: determining a target of said annotated anchor; detecting a second anchor representing a link to said target; and, suppressing a display of said second anchor.
46. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of: determining a target of said annotated anchor; detecting a node, in a hypertext structure, representing said target; and, propagating said annotation to said node.
47. (Original): The method of claim 46 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to said target; and wherein step (c) further includes the steps of: detecting an object, in said hypertext structure, representing said link; and, altering said object.
48. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of: determining a target of said annotated anchor; detecting a node, in a hypertext structure, representing said target; and, suppressing said node.

49. (Original): The method of claim 48 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to said target; and wherein step (c) further includes the steps of:
detecting an object, in the hypertext structure, representing said link; and,
suppressing the display of said object.

50. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least one target; and wherein step (c) includes the step of:
displaying simultaneously, said annotated anchor and said target.

51. (Currently amended): An apparatus for detecting at least one annotated anchor in a document stored in a processor-readable storage medium, the apparatus comprising:

a processor;

[[a]] the processor-readable storage medium in communication with the processor,
containing processor-readable program code for programming the apparatus to:

detect each annotation in the document;

detect, proximate to or within each annotation, the presence of an anchor; and,
generate a data structure including each annotated anchor.

52. (Original): The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program code for programming the apparatus to:

filter the data structure to include only annotated anchors which contain at least one selected attribute.

53. (Original): The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program code for programming the apparatus to:

locate a second document containing a reference to at least one of said annotated anchors included in said data structure.

54. (Original): The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program code for programming the apparatus to:

determine a target document for each annotated anchor included in said data structure;
identify whether the target document is stored within the apparatus;
obtain a copy of the target document if not stored.

55. (Original): The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program code for programming the apparatus to:

determine a target document for said annotated anchor;
identify additional anchors which represent a link to said target document; and
propagate said annotation to said identified additional anchors.

56. (Original): The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program code for programming the apparatus to:

determine a target for said annotated anchor;
identify, in a hypertext structure, a node representing said target; and
propagate said annotation to said node.

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